

patent and the 10 sets of figures does Johnson indicate that the outer layer can be made from a dampening material. Indeed, Johnson makes a concerted effort to separately describe the dampening materials, described in columns 13 to 17, from the external films materials, described in columns 11 to 13. Had Johnson intended to have the external film be a dampening material it would not have made such concerted effort to separate the two types of materials. Furthermore, Johnson would have indicated that the outer layer is a dampening material but it fail to do so, a further indication that it had no intention of having, disclosing and/or teaching, a damper as the external layer. Lastly, by Johnson disclosing that a non dampening external film is used as the external layer it actually teaches away from the principle of the present invention that utilizes a low outgassing damper as the external layer. Had Johnson intended or contemplated having the external layer being a damper then it would have disclosed and/or claimed as such.

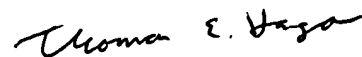
In addition, the present invention is designed for use in a vacuum environment, a concept not intended by Johnson. Also, unlike Johnson, the outside damper in the present invention provides for the structural integrity of the damper. Whereas Johnson requires a non damped external film to provide the structural integrity.

As for the claim that Johnson disclosures rubber as a basis for one of the highly damped layers is nothing new as rubber based materials have been used as dampers long before Johnson disclosed the same. Consequently, if this prior art was not dispositive on the Johnson patent then it is equally not dispositive on the present invention.

As for the claim that Johnson discloses that one of the dampening layers can be made from a fluorinated polymer is not dispositive on the application. As indicated above in the changes to the specifications and claims, the attorney preparing the application for the present invention made a mistake by indicating that the preferred embodiment of the low outgassing layer is made from a fluorinated polymer when in fact the preferred embodiment of the low outgassing layer of the present invention is a fluorocarbon elastomer such as Viton.

If you have any questions regarding this office action please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



Thomas E. Hagar
Registration No. 42,617